

**Early Childhood Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
July 19, 2012

**Call to Order**

The meeting of the Early Childhood Advisory Council was called to order at 10:00 AM on July 19, 2012 at the Department for Environmental Protection in Frankfort, Kentucky.

**Roll Call**

The following members were present: Mike Hammons for Randy Coe, Marilyn Coffey, Ben Cundiff, Ruth Ann Shepherd for Steve Davis, Paula Goff, Cindy Heine, Karen Kidwell for Terry Holliday, Amy Hood Hooten, Rick Hulefeld, Mary Beth Jackson, Lacey McNary, LaQuandra Nesbitt, Joe Roberts, Nicki Patton Rowe, Bill Scott, Anna Shepherd and June Widman. Staff attending included: Albert Fox, Amanda Riley, Terry Tolan and Elizabeth Whitehouse. The following members were not present: Thomas Burch, Jane Chandler, Tommy Floyd, David Givens, Tracy Haddix, Audrey Haynes, Joseph Meyer, Aubrey Nehring, and Brigitte Ramsey.

**Welcome .....Rick Hulefeld**

Chair Rick Hulefeld announced that Governor Steve Beshear issued an executive order on July 16, 2012 reappointing the Early Childhood Advisory Council. He reminded the Council of the swift progress towards the goals made by and for the Council and stated their recent achievements are extraordinary.

**Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

On motion of Ben Cundiff, second by Cindy Heine, the minutes of the May 2012 meeting were approved.

**Kindergarten Readiness Screen Update.....Karen Kidwell and Joe Roberts for Brigitte Ramsey**

Karen Kidwell announced that all Training of Trainers (TOT) for the implementation of the Brigance Kindergarten Screener has been completed and the 107 voluntary districts for the 2012-2013 school year are officially prepared. Multiple members commented on how effectively this training was completed. Karen also reported that the Kentucky Department of Education is closely working with Brigance to ensure all data systems interact well and that all fields are available when the screener is launched. Joe Roberts mentioned a plan to distribute screener data to Community Early Childhood Councils (CECCs) to ensure all stakeholders receive the data and the results. Karen Kidwell explained that the implementation of regional Early Learning Leadership Networks would also assist in the dissemination of data and capacity building through encouraging collaborative work to serve children through highly effective best practices. A discussion highlighted the possible need and attention for a preschool/early childhood screener.

**The CECC Journey and Recommendations ..... Bill Scott & Marilyn Coffey**

Bill Scott prefaced a presentation on the CECC Grant Proposal by Joe Roberts and Terry Tolan, saying that the Community Collaboration workgroup had reviewed and approved the information. Joe Roberts

presented a history of the CECCs, the changes between the grant applications of last year and this year, the changes in requirements and the application process. Terry Tolan discussed the changing expectations for the role of CECCs and presented the key elements that the Community Collaboration workgroup had deemed important best practices of successful CECCs. Terry Tolan then presented the proposal on tiered funding based on score for the 69 councils that applied. Tier 1 would receive 100% of eligible funding, Tier 2 would receive a pro-rated amount, and Tier 3 would be offered technical assistance and would be invited to reapply for the prorated amount. On motion of Bill Scott to accept the recommendation, second by Rick Hulefeld, the funding recommendation to Community Early Childhood Councils of \$1.2 Million was approved, with abstention due to their local council membership from Marilyn Coffey, Amy Hood Hooten and June Widman. Joe Roberts then presented the next steps for all three tiers of funded councils. After the presentation, Rick Hulefeld commented on the small increase in focus on data from CECCs and asked that Bill Scott and the Community Collaboration meeting focus on data best practices and encouraging CECCs to use data.

**Executive Director's Report .....Terry Tolan**

Terry Tolan discussed the Progress Report that Secretary Joe Meyer asked her to present as a year end look at the work of the ECAC and stated that she felt good about the accomplishments that have been made in one year. She recently gave a presentation at Toyota, wherein Toyota made a 5 year commitment to the expansion of Born Learning Academies which engage parents of preschoolers around early childhood development. Terry thought this was a good example of positioning the council in a way that is appealing for private investment. Terry recently presented at multiple other business and community events, considering it part of the work of the council to be ambassadors for how critical early childhood development is to the Commonwealth. Terry reported that the website should be ready to edit by August 1 and that Joe Roberts should have an update on the website at the next meeting of the ECAC in September.

**Conclusion.....Rick Hulefeld**

Before concluding, Rick Hulefeld asked LaQuandra Nesbitt to introduce herself as the newest member of the Council. All other members gave a short introduction as well.

The next meeting of the Early Childhood Advisory Council is scheduled for Thursday, September 20, 2012 at the Louisville Science Center.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 PM.